

UNWARNED VESSELS SENT TO THEIR DOOM BY SUBMARINES

Consul At Queenstown Notifies State Department of Latest German Outrage on High Seas, and Great Wave of Indignation Sweeps Over Nation.

Overt Act World Has Waited

(Associated Press By Commercial Pacific Cable.)

WASHINGTON, March 19.—A state of war, without any formal declaration, now virtually exists between the United States and Germany, precipitated yesterday by the destruction of American property and the murder of American citizens on the high seas yesterday by German submarines. The American steamer City of Memphis, distinctively marked as American and flying the Stars and Stripes was sunk by shellfire, a number of her crew, described as a few, being killed or drowned.

The American steamer Vigilancia was sunk by a torpedo fired without any warning. She went down with fourteen of her crew, including the fourth engineer, killed either by the explosion of the torpedo or trapped and drowned when the ship sank.

All Lives Saved On the Illinois

The American steamer Illinois was torpedoed, without loss of life, the members of her crew being all landed in safety.

The receipt of the news despatches telling of these overacts on the part of German commanders aroused officialdom to a realization that the end had come, and when official despatches from Queenstown from the American consul, Wesley Frost, confirmed in all essential details the unofficial despatches, it was recognized that war virtually had been precipitated by Germany.

No Feature of Overt Act Omitted

No feature going to make of the triple defiance of the United States as overt act was omitted by the Germans.

President Wilson immediately took into consideration the demands made upon him to call a special session of congress without a day's delay, in order that a formal declaration of war might be passed, but in the last obtainable statement from the White House last night it was said that the President had not as yet definitely decided to issue the call.

It is believed that the next move to be made by the President will be to issue orders to the navy department to despatch American warships into the war zone, to clear the lanes for American traffic, and to seek out and destroy the hostile submarines.

Officials here advance the opinion, and have so informed the President, that he is empowered under the Constitution to issue a declaration of war himself, pending the assembling of congress, but there is no indication that the President will follow such a course.

Near Grave of the Lusitania

The unwarned attack upon the City of Memphis was made at a point thirty-five miles south of the Fastnet Light, off the south coast of Ireland, in the same general locality in which the Lusitania was torpedoed and sunk. This steamer, owned by the Ocean Steamship Company, was bound from Savannah, Georgia, for London. She was a small freighter of 3081 tons. She was skippered by Captain Burg.

Aboard the City of Memphis were forty-eight Americans and a number of others, believed to be Americans, each member of the crew having produced a certificate of American birth or American naturalization before the sailing of the ship. It is not known how many of the Memphis crew have been lost, although there are some boats missing, for which British patrol ships are now searching. This was the tenth trip of the Memphis into the war zone.

The despatch from London states that this ship was sunk by gunfire. The official despatch from Consul Frost to Secretary Lansing says that she, too, was torpedoed.

Vigilancia Received No Warning

The torpedo attack upon the Vigilancia was made near the scene of the sinking of the City of Memphis. The Vigilancia was a craft of 2934 tons. She was commanded by Captain Middleton, who had with him in his crew some forty men. Of these fourteen are believed to have been killed or drowned. Captain Middleton reports that he was given no warning whatever of the intended attack.

The Vigilancia was owned by the New York and Cuban Mail Company and was en route to a French port from Lisbon.

The Illinois was a tank steamer of 3275 tons, bound from Port Arthur, Texas, for London. As in the case of the Vigilancia, no warning was given her commander, Captain Iversen, of the attack to be made.

CHINA ASKS ALLIES TO SUSPEND INDEMNITY

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
PEKING, March 19.—A meeting of the Entente ministers was held at the office of the foreign minister here yesterday, at which the foreign minister presented a memorial, requesting the Allied Powers to suspend the Boxer Rebellion indemnity, and to consent to the proposal of the Chinese government to increase import duties, and to station troops along the Tien-tsin-Peking railroad. It is believed that the requests will be granted without trouble. The Holland minister here is acting for the Germans, as the German minister will leave Peking for Shanghai within five days. Denmark is acting for China in Berlin.

RUSS BEAT BACK TURKS AND TAKE ARMENIAN CITY

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
LONDON, March 19.—Reports from Petrograd announced yesterday that the Russians had recaptured the town of Van in the Lake Van region in Armenia, after some heavy fighting, in which the Turks suffered severely.

CASTLE'S BOOK ON HAWAII IS PRAISED BY EASTERN PRESS

"The enchantments and picturesque lure of the Hawaiian Islands to the tourist is well pictured in William B. Castle's serviceable handbook, 'Hawaii, Past and Present,'" says a critic in the New York Times. "It appeared in its original edition some three or four years ago, but the present work has been brought completely up to date by incorporating all the necessary information about the islands that has since been acquired. While many books have been written about special phases of Hawaii in its history or its commerce or its industry, none has attempted to give, as Mr. Castle has done, a concise survey of its history, its present condition and its natural beauty. Particularly interesting is the early history of the islands up to the time of their acquisition by the United States, their development as a territory in the channels of trade and commerce and the present-day condition of the Hawaiian people. To the intending visitor, who would plan his trip intelligently, especially in view of the fact that Baedeker has not as yet extended his labors to the Pacific, the book is essentially valuable; but it has undeniable interest to those who stay at home and must see this beautiful land through another's eyes."

GERMAN MUNITIONS PLANT IS BLOWN UP

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
COPENHAGEN, March 19.—Despatches from Germany last night announced the destruction of the huge Tension munition plant at Cologne last Tuesday night, when an explosion wrecked the place, killing several hundred of the workers. The information comes from German sources.

A FAMILY REMEDY

Every family should be provided with Chamberlain's Pain Balm at all times. Sprains may be cured in much less time when promptly treated. Lame back, lame shoulder, pains in the side and chest and rheumatic pains are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable. Try this balm and become acquainted with its qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by all dealers, Benson Smith & Co., agents for Hawaii.

STRIKE CALLED OFF War Threat Ends Dispute

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

NEW YORK, March 19.—The railroad strike was called off yesterday afternoon. Not to stand a week tonight, Eastern time, the nation-wide strike of railroad employees, that would have tied up every important line of travel and transportation in the country, crippling trade and commerce, closing mines and factories, and leaving centers of population without food supply in this critical hour of the nation's history, was halted at the eleventh hour in the name of "national defense."

The order that called on tens of thousands of engineers, firemen, conductors and trainmen to leave their posts of duty during the next five days was revoked by the leaders of the four brotherhoods of railway employees on an unqualified and unconditional authorization given the council of national defense by the railroad managers and executives "to grant the employees whatever adjustment of hours and conditions it deems necessary to guarantee the operation of this indispensable arm of national defense."

Responding to the appeal to patriotism addressed jointly to the railroad managers and the railroad unions by President Wilson, Friday last, the railroads authorized the mediators to make whatever arrangements are necessary with the brotherhoods to call off the strike. Yesterday's developments in the international crisis spurred the railroad heads to action.

Immediately the leaders of the four brotherhoods dashed the word by telegraph and long distance telephone throughout the country to the locals and the men that there would be no strike.

At once the railroads lifted freight embargoes that had been declared on all main lines in preparation for the strike.

No indication of the sudden patriotic

RUSSIA UNITED UNDER NEW RULE WILL FIGHT TO WAR END

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)

PETROGRAD, March 19.—With the last vestiges of the imperial family fast disappearing from the outward life of the Russian people, the country is settling down under the new regime, awaiting the gathering of an assembly of six hundred, which is to be elected by a popular vote of the people for the express purpose of drafting a constitution. Caution is being exercised, even the pictures of the former emperor having been taken from the walls of the public buildings and from their places in the homes of the millions of Russians who had been bred to regard him as the temporal manifestation of the supreme power of God on earth.

Many Entente Aeroplanes Are Destroyed By Teutonic Flyers

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
BERLIN, March 19.—In the air above and in the waters under the earth, the Germans did well the last few days, according to the official statement issued yesterday by the German general staff. The fighting in the air on the western front Saturday resulted in the destruction of twenty-two Allied aeroplanes, while the Germans lost but three. The admiralty reports that the number of torpedoes sunk by the submarines on March 15 was 20, 100, while the total for February, now made public was 681,500 tons, or 248 vessels, seventy-seven of which were by the big German submarines.

SPLIT IN AUSTRALIA OVER CONSCRIPTION VOTE WIDENS

(By The Associated Press.)
MELBOURNE, March 18.—The cleavage in the ranks of labor over the recent conscription issue has become exceedingly bitter. An inter-state conference of political leaders of the Labor party, held here, has gone on record almost unanimously in condemnation of the Australian premier, William M. Hughes, and expelled him as leader of the Labor party, because he failed to respond to the mandate of the state of councils of the party in opposition to conscription. Representatives from every state except New Australia, which was one of the three states where Mr. Hughes' conscription proposal received a favorable vote in the referendum last October, joined in the attack of Mr. Hughes, and in the following resolution expelling him and his followers from the Australian Labor movement.

It was resolved, "that as compulsory overseas military service is opposed to the principles embodied in the Australian Labor party's platform, all federal members (that is, members of the Commonwealth Parliament) who have supported compulsory overseas military service, or who have left the Party, or who have formed an other political party, are hereby expelled from the Australian Labor movement."

It was decided to send a copy of this resolution to the leader of the Labor party in Great Britain. Other resolutions which were adopted were: "That any proposals for an Imperial Federation involving the slightest surrender of Australia's self-governing powers in return for a vote in the Empire's foreign policy would be disastrous to Australian ideals and should not therefore be entertained." And: "That this conference emphatically protests against the unscrupulous attempts made during the recent conscription campaign by Mr. W. M. Hughes, and other conscriptionists to associate the Labor party with methods and means of the Industrial Workers of the World."

BATTER IN FAMOUS NOYON SALIENT WITH HEAVY GUNS

Advance In Places Totals Ten and Twelve Miles In Depth and Front Swept Reaches From Peronne South Past the Bloody Battlefield of Soissons; More Than Sixty Villages Fall Into Hands of the Entente

Hindenburg Hurries To Berlin

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
BERLIN, March 19.—Field Marshal von Hindenburg, commander in chief of all the German armies in the field, has hurried from his great headquarters to see the Kaiser and explain to him the meaning of the recent retreats on the western front, and outline the present situation there.

LONDON, March 19.—Abandoning for the time being their thrusts at the German lines in the vicinity of Bapaume the British yesterday, linking hands with the French struck on a new sector, breaking the German front and driving them back more than ten miles in places over a front of more than forty-five miles. South and to the east of that attack, the French thrust simultaneously over a front of thirty-seven miles, and their success was even more spectacular than that of the British, for in places the German armies were hurled backward, shattered and broken for more than twelve miles.

SCORES OF VILLAGES TAKEN

Scores of villages, including such places as Chaumes, Nesle, and the long battle for city of Peronne were taken by the British, while the French, hammering steadily at the retreating Teutons, also captured dozens of small towns and a number of important ones, including Crouy, Carlepont, Morsam and Nouvron, all of them positions which have been held by the Germans for more than two years, or since the battle of the Marne and Aisne flung them back from Paris and broke the power of von Kluck.

The announcement of the successful attack shows for the first time that the British have for some time been extending the length of line which they have been holding, and now they are in charge of the whole front from the English Channel to Noyon, with the exception of that small sector of Belgium which is being defended by the heroic troops under the personal command of King Albert.

THRUST AT APEX OF SALIENT

Here it is believed that the French and British commanders have accomplished a great coup, and have surprised the Germans by their attack in a different sector, while hammering hard in the neighborhood of Bapaume and in the Champagne country. The military observers also are pointing out the fact that the Allies have selected the apex of the great German salient thrust into France for their stroke and have smitten on both sides of the point, crushing into the Teutonic lines on both sides and practically obliterating a large part of it.

The first news of the battle was contained in reports of tremendous artillery bombardment along a wide front. This bombardment increased in volume until the moment came for the stroke of the infantry.

GERMAN LINES CRUMPLED

Then the German lines crumpled up under the blow, bent backward and broke, letting in the polars and Tommies with but comparatively little resistance.

This was reported, and then came the announcement of the fall of Peronne, as the British pressed forward. They had taken one of the outlying bastions of that city last week, with the capture of Le Bois St. Pierre Vaast, one of the strongholds of the Germans on the Somme front, and which protected the banks of Mont St. Quentin, which in turn dominated Peronne. When yesterday's assault began their places fell in rapid succession, and the British line swept on across the Somme canal and the marshy banks of the river itself, where the French had been held for months, and drove forward with but little opposition for miles.

Charles, the railroad center of that immediate sector, and the point to which the Germans clung with such desperate tenacity when the approach of the French enabled General Petain to thrust with some force directly at the enemy's flank, also fell before the British attack, and the line swept on, the enemy retreating as it progressed until the southern waves lapped over the advance of the northern wing of the French army, operating from Soissons east and west.

When night came and the official reports of the day were in, it was found that the British had gained in some cases more than ten miles of ground, taken from the sullenly retreating foe, while the French had pierced the German lines in places to a depth of more than twelve miles and are moving steadily in the direction of Ham.

Washington Convinced That War In Europe Is Nearing Its End

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, March 19.—Officials here are convinced that the beginning of the end of the war has come. Following the fall of Bagdad, the sweep forward of the British armies in Mesopotamia, and the tremendous gains made by the British and French upon the Western front of late, the revolution in Russia, and the growing threats of international troubles in Germany, center the announcement of the decision of China to break off diplomatic relations with Germany. This in itself is not regarded as serious, but as an indication of the trend of sentiment throughout the world. The retreat of the Germans in the west, while admitted to be serious is not regarded as being more than a strategic move, and in some quarters it is believed that Germany still has strength for another powerful offensive, should she care to launch it. The revolt in Russia is also looked upon as being more or less in favor of the Central Powers, in view of the possibility of a counter-revolution of the conservatives, which it is pointed out, would cripple the nation's military efficiency.

YOUNG WOMEN WANTED AS COOKS IN BRITISH ARMY

(By The Associated Press.)
LONDON, March 17.—The war office has issued a hurry call for a thousand young women to enlist as cooks and waitresses for duty with various units in the army. The minimum age permitted is eighteen and the pay is \$130 a year, with free uniforms, board, laundry, insurance and railroad fare. The pay, as a matter of fact, is slightly better than that of the ordinary British private soldier. Women recruits must "sign on" for the duration of the war.

PLEA FOR AFRICAN SLAVES

LONDON, March 2.—The Anti-Slavery Abolition Protection Society has issued an appeal to the secretary of state for the colonies to declare by proclamation the freedom of 185,000 slaves in the territory known recently as the German West Africa protectorate. The publication of the appeal is sanctioned by the colonial office.

HAWAII SUPERVISORS BACKS LYMAN'S BILLS

The board of supervisors of Hawaii County, under a resolution introduced by Supervisor A. M. Cabrera, has gone on record favoring the passage of Representative Lyman's H. B. 58, which provides for the setting apart of certain government land in Hilo for the site of a high school, agricultural and botanical gardens. The board also backs up Lyman's H. B. 56, providing for a site for the county hospital in Hilo. Both bills have already passed the house.

The high school bill, after a strenuous fight in the house, it passing on a close vote, was tabled shortly afterward in the senate, but on Saturday was taken from the table and recommitted for further consideration.